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A TWISTED P-C DOUBLE BOND: SYNTHESIS AND STRUCTURE OF A  
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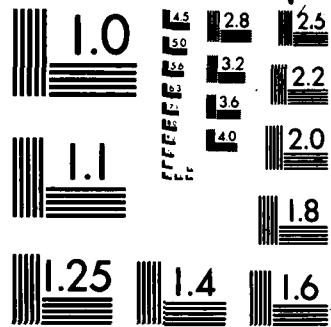
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by

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A Twisted P-C Double Bond: Synthesis and Structure  
of a (Methylene)phosphine·Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub> Complex

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Ivan Vickovic, and William H. Watson\*

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Summary: The reaction of (Me<sub>3</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>C=PCl with LiN(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> affords the tetrasilylated amino(methylene)phosphine 1 which, reacts smoothly with Fe<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>9</sub> yielding the  $\eta^1$  complex (Me<sub>3</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>C=P[Fe(CO)<sub>4</sub>]-N(SiMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (2). X-ray crystallographic analysis of 2 reveals an unusual coordination of the phosphine ligand in an equatorial position as well as a short (1.657 Å), but severely twisted (30.3°), P-C double bond.

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UNCLASSIFIED TITLE  
A TWISTED P-C DOUBLE BOND: SYNTHESIS AND STRUCTURE OF A (METHYLENE)PHOSPHINE FE(CO)4 COMPLEX.

ABSTRACT

(U) THE REACTION OF (ME<sub>3</sub>Si)SC=PCL WITH LIN(SIME<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> AFFORDS THE TETRAISILYLATED AMINO(METHYLENE)PHOSPHINE 1 WHICH, REACTS SMOOTHLY WITH FE<sub>2</sub>(CO)<sub>9</sub> YIELDING THE ETA SUPER 1 COMPLEX (ME<sub>3</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>C=P(FE(CO)<sub>4</sub>)-N(SIME<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (2). X-RAY CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF 2 REVEALS AN UNUSUAL COORDINATION OF THE PHOSPHINE LIGAND IN AN EQUATORIAL POSITION AS WELL AS A SHORT (1.857 A), BUT SEVERELY TWISTED (30.3 DEG). P = C DOUBLE BOND. (AUTHOR)

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PHOSPHINE LIGAND

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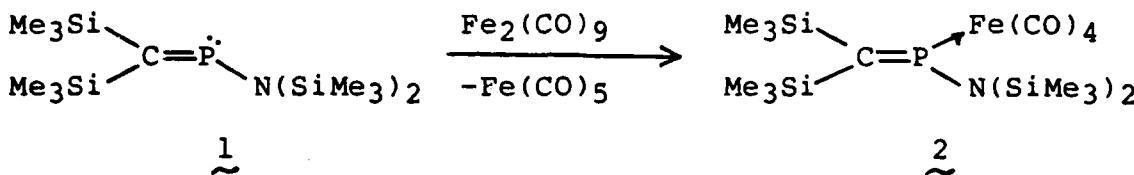
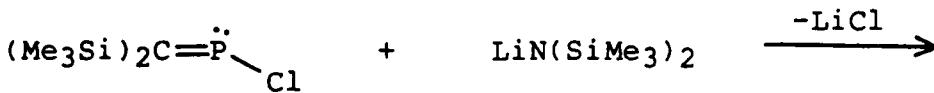
AMINO METHYLENE PHOSPHINE 1  
SUPER 1

PHOSPHINE FE CO 4  
30.3 DEG

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The high level of current interest in unusually-hybridized phosphorus compounds has been stimulated, in part, by their potential as new types of ligands in organometallic chemistry. Among the methylenephosphines,  $RP=CR_2$ , for example, both  $\sigma(\pi^1)$  and  $\pi(\pi^2)$  complexes of the  $-P=C$  moiety are now known.<sup>1,2</sup> With two exceptions<sup>2</sup>, however, all of the methylenephosphine complexes have contained the same ligand,  $MesP=CPh_2$ , first reported by Bickelhaupt.<sup>3</sup> In order to extend these studies to the use of other ligands, we have begun an investigation of the coordination chemistry of our recently prepared amino(methylene)phosphines<sup>4</sup>. We report here the synthesis of the new methylenephosphine  $(Me_3Si)_2NP=C(SiMe_3)_2$  and its iron tetracarbonyl complex which is found to have an unusually twisted phosphorus-carbon double bond.

Treatment of lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (68 mmol) in  $Et_2O$  (250 mL) at  $0^\circ C$  with chloro[bis(trimethylsilyl)methylene]-phosphine<sup>5</sup> (68 mmol) afforded the tetrasilylated amino(methylene)phosphine 1 as a distillable yellow liquid (bp  $61-63^\circ C/0.01$  mm) in 59% yield. A purified sample of 1 (ca. 5 mmol) was then allowed to react with one equivalent of  $Fe_2(CO)_9$  in pentane (25 mL) at room temperature with stirring for 18 hours. Quantitative formation of the phosphine- $Fe(CO)_4$  complex was shown by  $^{31}P$  NMR spectroscopy, and 2 was isolated as dark orange crystals (mp  $153-155^\circ C$ ) by slow evaporation of the solvent. In addition to NMR spectroscopy (Table I), compounds 1 and 2 were characterized by satisfactory elemental analysis.<sup>6</sup>



Several aspects of the NMR spectra of 1 and 2 are structurally diagnostic. First, the low-field  $^{31}\text{P}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts in both compounds are indicative of  $\text{sp}^2$  hybridization and strongly suggest  $\pi^1$ -coordination to  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4$  via the phosphorus lone pair. Second, non-equivalence of the C-bonded  $\text{Me}_3\text{Si}$  groups due to hindered rotation about the  $\text{P}=\text{C}$  double bond is seen in the  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ , and  $^{29}\text{Si}$  NMR spectra. Third, there is a substantial coupling ( $^{2}\text{J}_{\text{PC}} = 18.6$  Hz) between phosphorus and the carbonyl carbons of the  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4$  group, indicating that 2 does not undergo the rapid intermolecular exchange of CO as observed for the analogous complexes of the isoelectronic aminophosphonium ions.<sup>7</sup>

The X-ray crystallographic analysis<sup>8</sup> of 2 (Figure 1) confirms the  $\pi^1$ -coordination mode of the (methylene)phosphine and reveals some unexpected features. Most significant is the severe twist about the  $\text{P}=\text{C}$  bond of  $30.3(6)^\circ$ ; however, the P-C bond distance of  $1.657(5)$  Å is significantly shorter than the 1.68 to 1.72 Å range reported by Appel<sup>9</sup> for a series of planar  $\text{P}=\text{C}$

$\pi$ -systems. The distance is equivalent to the 1.647(9) Å and 1.657(4) Å values reported recently for some 3-coordinate (methylene)phosphoranes.<sup>10,11</sup> Steric interactions between the bulky substituents are relieved by a rotation about the P=C bond. Although the P=C bond is considerably longer than a C=C bond, the present structure is indicative of the interactions which would exist in tri- and tetraisobutylethylenes.

In contrast to most simple phosphine- $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4$  complexes,<sup>12,13</sup> the ligand is coordinated at an equatorial site in a slightly distorted trigonal bipyramidal geometry around the iron. The Fe, P, C(2), and C(4) atoms are coplanar with a maximum deviation from the plane of 0.001 Å. In the trigonal plane, the P-Fe-C angles are 124.1(3) and 125.5(3) $^\circ$  while the C-Fe-C angle is compressed to 110.4(3) $^\circ$ . The two axial ligands make a C-Fe-C angle of 173.1(4) $^\circ$  and are bent toward the phosphine ligand which, to our knowledge, is unprecedented. The angles between axial and equatorial ligands range from 86.8(2) to 94.7(3) $^\circ$ . All three atoms in the N-P=C linkage have trigonal planar geometries with the Si<sub>2</sub>N and Si<sub>2</sub>C planes being nearly orthogonal. The NPC plane lies between the axial and equatorial planes of the  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_4$  moiety, probably to further minimize steric interactions.

Acknowledgment. The financial support of the U.S. Office of Naval Research and The Robert A. Welch Foundation (P-074 and P-759) is gratefully acknowledged. Silicon-29 NMR spectra were kindly provided by Professor Lattman at Southern Methodist University.

TABLE I. NMR Spectroscopic Data<sup>a</sup>

	$\overset{\sim}{1}$	$\overset{\sim}{2}$
$\delta^{31}\text{P}$	383.1	311.4
$\delta^{1\text{H}} (J_{\text{PH}})$		
N(SiMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.16 (0.5)	0.32
C(SiMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	0.12 (2.1)	0.15
	0.15	0.25
$\delta^{13}\text{C} (J_{\text{PC}})$		
N(SiMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	3.90 (1.9)	2.99 (2.0)
C(SiMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	3.05 (7.8)	-0.10 (14.6)
	3.64	2.26 (4.9)
P=C	187.5 (96.7)	162.1 (12.6)
CO		213.6 (18.6)
$\delta^{29}\text{Si} (J_{\text{PSi}})$		
N(SiMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1.42	7.90 (5.0)
C(SiMe <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	-4.60 (39.3)	-5.30 (15.8)
	-9.84 (10.7)	-8.00 (19.4)

<sup>a</sup> Chemical shifts downfield from Me<sub>4</sub>Si for <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C, and <sup>29</sup>Si, and from H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> for <sup>31</sup>P spectra; coupling constants in Hz. Solvents: <sup>1</sup>H, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>; <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>31</sup>P, and <sup>29</sup>Si, CDCl<sub>3</sub>. <sup>b</sup> Non-equivalent Me<sub>3</sub>Si groups due to hindered P=C bond rotation.

References and Notes

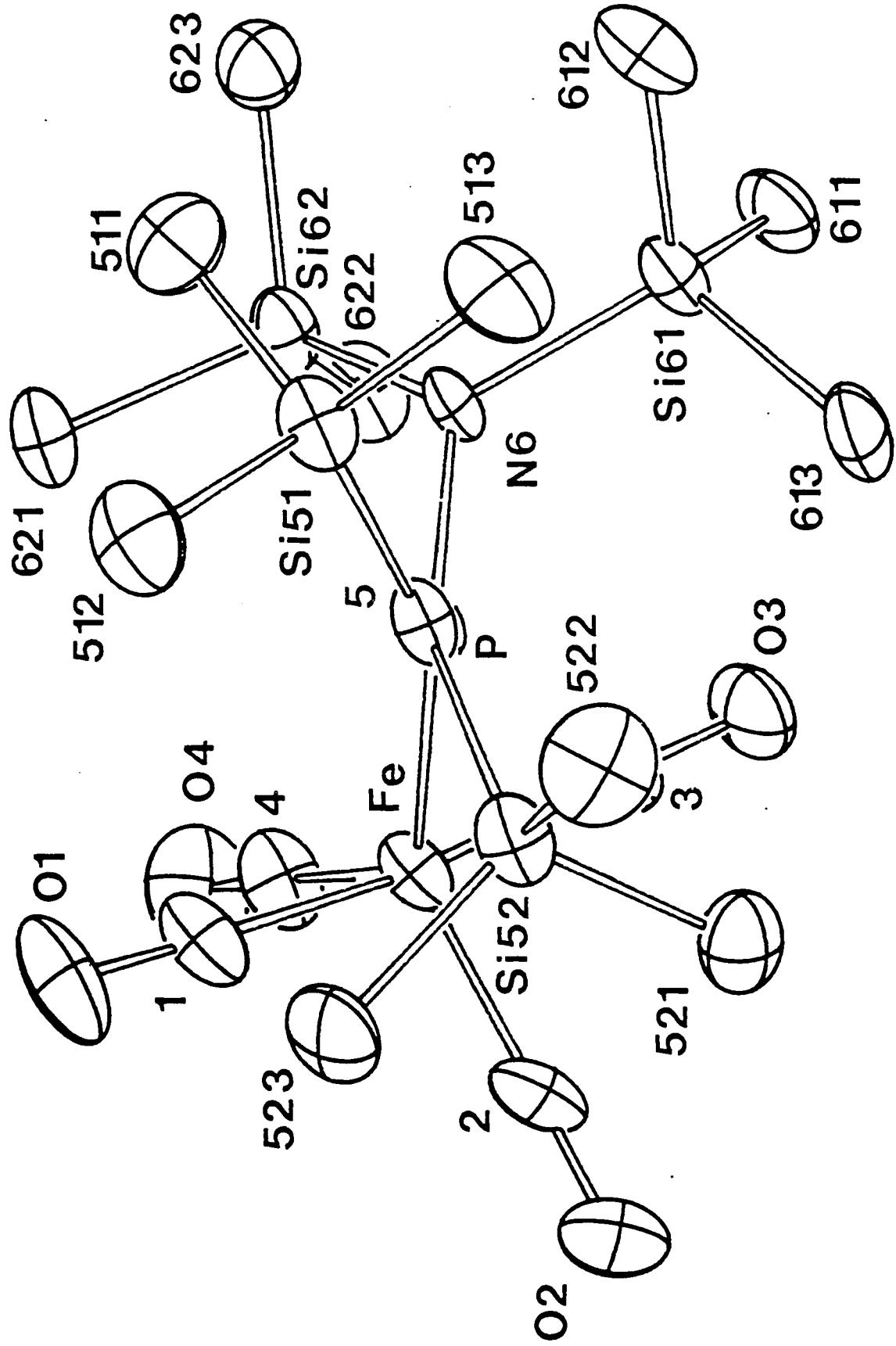
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Figure 1. Ortep drawing of 2 viewed down the C(5)=P bond.

Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 35% probability level.

Selected bond lengths ( $\text{\AA}$ ) and angles ( $^\circ$ ): P-Fe 2.208(2); Fe-C(1) 1.795(4); Fe-C(2) 1.794(2); Fe-C(3) 1.787(4); Fe-C(4) 1.768(7); P=C 1.657(5); P-N 1.681(4); N-Si 1.788(4); 1.790(4); C(5)-Si 1.884(7), 1.890(6); Fe-P-C(5) 128.0(2); Fe-P-N 116.8(2); N-P-C(5) 115.2(8); P-C(5)-Si(51) 135.0(7); P-C(5)-Si(52) 118.7(3).



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